

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

~~SEALED~~

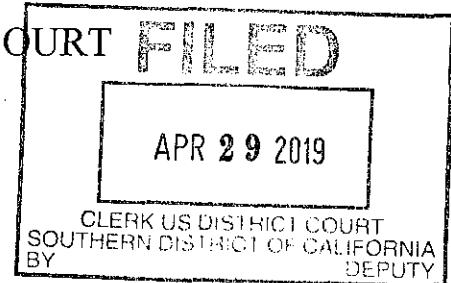
for the

Southern District of California

In the Matter of the Search of  
*(Briefly describe the property to be searched  
or identify the person by name and address)*

Information that is stored at Facebook,  
 1601 Willow Road, Menlo Park, California 94025

)  
 )  
 )  
 Case No.



**CASE UNSEALED PER ORDER OF COURT**  
**19MJ1756**

**APPLICATION FOR A SEARCH WARRANT**

I, a federal law enforcement officer or an attorney for the government, request a search warrant and state under penalty of perjury that I have reason to believe that on the following person or property (*identify the person or describe the property to be searched and give its location*):

See Attachment A

located in the Northern District of California, there is now concealed (*identify the person or describe the property to be seized*):

See Attachment B

The basis for the search under Fed. R. Crim. P. 41(c) is (*check one or more*):

- evidence of a crime;
- contraband, fruits of crime, or other items illegally possessed;
- property designed for use, intended for use, or used in committing a crime;
- a person to be arrested or a person who is unlawfully restrained.

The search is related to a violation of:

*Code Section*  
 18 U.S.C. § 247(a)(2);  
 18 U.S.C. § 249(a)(1);  
 18 U.S.C. § 247(a)(1)

*Offense Description*  
 Intentional obstruction by force of persons in the free exercise of religious belief;  
 Willfully causing bodily injury to persons through the use of a firearm because of  
 their actual or perceived religion; damage to religious property

The application is based on these facts:

See attached affidavit of ATF Senior Special Agent Matthew Beals

- Continued on the attached sheet.
- Delayed notice of \_\_\_\_\_ days (give exact ending date if more than 30 days: \_\_\_\_\_) is requested under 18 U.S.C. § 3103a, the basis of which is set forth on the attached sheet.

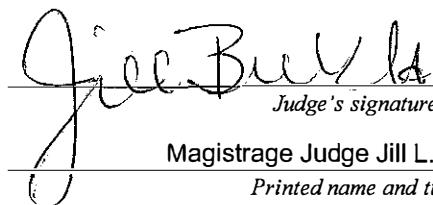
  
 Applicant's signature

FBI Special Agent Maria Solomon

Printed name and title

Sworn to before me and signed in my presence.

Date: 4/28/19

  
 Judge's signature

Magistrate Judge Jill L. Burkhardt

Printed name and title

City and state: San Diego, California



**ATTACHMENT A**

This warrant applies to information associated with following Facebook accounts:

Facebook ID Account Number 100027636555708, with Facebook User Name "John Earnest"; and

Facebook ID Account Number 100005829157939, with Facebook Username: "John Tocatina,"

that are stored at premises owned, maintained, controlled, or operated by Facebook,

1601 Willow Road, Menlo Park, California 94025

**ATTACHMENT B**

**I. Service of Warrant**

The officer executing the warrant shall permit Facebook, as custodian of the computer files described in Section II below, to locate the files and copy them onto removable electronic storage media and deliver the same to the officer.

**II. Items Subject to Seizure**

All registration information; Phone and associated devices; Trusted devices; Deleted friends; Last location; IP history; Stored video and audio direct message communications; Any and all accounts associated by cookie; User Names and profile names; E-mail addresses and passwords; Any and all live stream video associated with account; Profile information; Friends information; Private messages in the user's inbox, sent messages, trash/deleted messages, notifications and updates involving any and all user; Chat information in the user's inbox, sent messages, trash/deleted messages, notifications and updates involving any and all user; IP logs (which includes the date stamps of the IP logs at login), initial login IP address and account activity and other information including name, address, phone number and other screen names that may tend to identify the user; and any other files associated with the following accounts:

Facebook ID Account Number 100027636555708, with Facebook User Name "John Earnest"; and

Facebook ID Account Number 100005829157939, with Facebook Username: "John Tocatina,"

(hereinafter, the "**SUBJECT ACCOUNTS**"). The search of the data supplied by Facebook, Inc., pursuant to this warrant will be conducted as provided in the "Procedures for Electronically Stored Information" of the affidavit submitted in support of this search warrant and will be limited to:

a. Communications, data, or attachments relating to the research, purchase, or acquisition of firearms, and the research or manufacture of incendiary or explosive devices;

b. Communications, data, or attachments tending to identify others involved in the criminal activity described below;

c. Communications, data, or attachments third parties with whom John Ernest discussed the criminal activities described below;

d. Communications, data, or attachments relating to John Earnests' motivation and bias for committing the criminal activities described below;

e. Communications, data, or attachments relating to the research of, visits to, or other connections with the Synagogue located on Chabad Way in Poway, California, and/or the Dar-ul-Arqam Mosque and Islamic Center (the "mosque"), located at 318 West 6th Avenue in Escondido, California;

f. Communications, data, or attachments relating to the research or viewing of news articles and reports about the arson that occurred at the mosque in Escondido, California on March 24, 2019, or criminal acts committed by other individuals involving criminal activity described below;

g. Communications, data, or attachments relating to recruiting and inspiring individuals to engage in the criminal activity described below;

h. Communications, data, or attachments relating to the whereabouts of John Earnest and any criminal associates or co-conspirators at the of the April 27, 2019, shooting at the synagogue on Chabad Way in Poway, and the March 24, 2019, arson of the mosque in Escondido, California;

i. Communications, data, or attachments that tend to provide context to the information described above, such as direct messages sent or received in temporal proximity to any relevant communications, or communications, data, or attachments tending to identify the user of or person with control over the **SUBJECT ACCOUNTS**.

during the time period from January 1, 2017, through April 27, 2019, which tend to prove violations of federal law, namely, intentional obstruction, by force or threat of force, of persons in the free exercise of religious belief, resulting in death, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 247(a)(2), willfully causing bodily injury to persons through the use of a firearm because of the actual or perceived religion of said persons, resulting in death, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 249(a)(1), and damage to religious property, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 247(a)(1).

## **AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF APPLICATION FOR SEARCH WARRANT**

I, Maria Solomon, being duly sworn, state:

### **I. INTRODUCTION**

1. This affidavit is submitted in support of an application for a search warrant pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 2703(a), 2703(b)(1)(A), and 2703(c)(1)(A), for information associated with the following Facebook accounts:

Facebook ID Account Number 100027636555708, with Facebook User Name "John Earnest"; and

Facebook ID Account Number 100005829157939, with Facebook Username: "John Tocatina,"

(hereinafter the "**SUBJECT ACCOUNTS**"), used by John Earnest, and stored at the premises owned, maintained, controlled, or operated by Facebook, 1601 Willow Road, Menlo Park, California 94025, more fully described in Attachment A.

2. As more fully described herein, there is probable cause to believe that within the **SUBJECT ACCOUNTS**, more fully described in Attachment A, will be found evidence of violations of federal law, namely, intentional obstruction, by force or threat of force of persons in the free exercise of religious belief, resulting in death, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 247(a)(2), willfully causing bodily injury to persons through the use of a firearm because of the actual or perceived religion of said persons, resulting in death, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 249(a)(1), and damage to religious property, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 247(a)(1), as more fully described in Attachment B.

### **II. EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING**

3. I am Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI") and have been so employed as such for eight years. I am currently assigned to the San Diego FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force ("JTTF") and have been assigned to this position since 2015. Prior to being assigned to the JTTF, I investigated National

Security matters including espionage and proliferation. I have received extensive training in evidence collection to include post blast investigations and served on the FBI's Evidence Response Team for six years. As part of my duties as a Special Agent, I am have been responsible for investigation violations of federal law, including violations of material support to terrorism, espionage, weapons proliferation and weapons of mass destruction.

4. My knowledge of the facts alleged in this affidavit arises from my training and experience, my personal observations, my participation in the federal investigation described herein, my conversations with other law enforcement agents, and my review of documents obtained during this investigation. Because this affidavit is submitted for the limited purpose of securing a search warrant as described herein, it does not include every fact known to me concerning this investigation.

### **III. FACEBOOK**

5. Facebook owns and operates a free-access social networking website of the same name that can be accessed at <http://www.facebook.com>. Facebook allows its users to establish accounts with Facebook, and users can then use their accounts to share written news, photographs, videos, and other information with other Facebook users, and sometimes with the general public.

6. Facebook asks users to provide basic contact and personal identifying information to Facebook, either during the registration process or thereafter. This information may include the user's full name, birth date, gender, contact e-mail addresses, Facebook, passwords, Facebook security questions and answers (for passwords retrieval), physical address (including city, state, and zip code), telephone numbers, screen names, websites, and other personal identifiers. Facebook also assigns a user identification number to each account.

7. Facebook users may join one or more groups or networks to connect and interact with other users who are members of the same group or network. Facebook assigns a group identification number to each group. A Facebook user can also connect directly with individual Facebook users by sending each user a “Friend request.” If the recipient of a “Friend request” accepts the requests, then the two users will become “Friends” for the purposes of Facebook and can exchange communications or view information about each other. Each Facebook user’s account includes a list of that user’s “Friends” and a “News Feed,” which highlights information about the user’s “Friends,” such as status updates, profile changes, upcoming events, and birthdays.

8. Facebook users can select different levels of privacy for the communications and information associate with their Facebook accounts. By adjusting these privacy settings, a Facebook user can make information available only to himself or herself, to particular Facebook users. A Facebook user can also create “lists” of Facebook friends to facilitate the application of these privacy settings. Facebook accounts also include other account settings that user can adjust to control, for example, the types of notifications they receive from Facebook.

9. Facebook users can create profiles that include photographs, lists of personal interests, and other information. Facebook users can also post “status” updates about their whereabouts and actions, as well as links to videos, photographs, articles, and other items available elsewhere on the Internet. A particular user’s profile page also includes a “Wall,” which is a space where the user and his or her “Friends” can post messages, attachments, and links that will typically be visible to anyone who can view the user’s profile.

10. Facebook has a Photos application, where users can upload an unlimited number of albums and photos. Another feature of the Photos application is the ability to “tag” (i.e., label) other Facebook users in a photo or video. For

Facebook's purposes, the photos associated with a user's account will include all photos upload by that user that have not been deleted, as well as all photos uploaded by any user that have that user tagged in them.

11. Facebook users can exchange private messages on Facebook with other users. These messages, which are similar to e-mail message, are sent to the recipient's "Inbox" on Facebook, which also stores copies of messages sent by the recipient, as well as other information. Facebook users can also post comments on the Facebook profiles of other users or on their own profiles; such comments are typically associated with a specific posting or item on the profile. In addition, Facebook has a Chat feature that allows users to send and receive instant messages through Facebook. These chat communications are stored in the chat history for the account. Facebook also has a Video Calling feature, and although Facebook does not record the calls themselves, it does keep records of the date of each call.

#### **IV. PROBABLE CAUSE**

12. During the course of my current duties, I have learned the following from consulting with other state, local and federal law enforcement officers, including San Diego Sheriff's Department (SDSD) Detectives, San Diego County District Attorney Investigators, and my fellow FBI agents.

13. On April 27, 2019 at approximately 11:23 am. San Diego Sheriff's Communication Center received a 911 call of shots fired at the Synagogue located on Chabad Way in Poway. The reporting party, Dan Sedereff, stated shots were fired in the synagogue.

14. During a briefing by the SDSD following the incident, it was reported that a white male, later identified as John Earnest, entered the synagogue through the front door and fired several rounds from an AR15 rifle. He then proceeded further into the synagogue where he began firing rounds from a handgun.

15. The SDSD stated that inside the synagogue was off-duty Border Patrol Agent Jonathan Morales who retrieved a revolver weapon from one of the congregation members and chased the suspect out of synagogue firing four shots at him as he got into a silver Honda that was parked across the street from the church. The Honda fled northbound on Rancho Bernardo Road. Morales then returned the gun to the congregation members who placed it in a black prayer bag and left it in the synagogue.

16. It was determined by officers that four people were shot and transported to the hospital.

17. SDSD Deputies responded to the synagogue along with paramedics. The synagogue was secured by deputies pending obtaining a search warrant from state authorities, which was planned to be executed later that day.

18. The same day (April 27, 2019), at approximately 11:30 a.m., a male who identified himself as John Earnest called into California Highway Patrol emergency line stating that he had fired shots into the synagogue and was willing to surrender to law enforcement. Earnest called from phone number 858.999.1461. Earnest gave his location as Phil's BBQ at 17051 West Bernardo Center Dr. He stated he was in possession of an AR15 Smith & Wesson MP15 rifle and several rounds of ammunition in his vehicle but that he would not use them against law enforcement. During that call, Earnest made the following comments, among others: "I just shot up a synagogue. I'm defending my country . . . I'm just trying to defend my nation against the Jewish people; they're destroying our people . . . I opened fire at a synagogue; I think I killed some people." I am informed and believed that Smith & Wesson does not manufacture firearms in the State of California.

19. San Diego Police Department ("SDPD") Officers responded to that location and took John Earnest into custody without further incident. Seen on the front passenger seat was an AR15 rifle but no handgun was visible. Additionally, in

the vehicle was a helmet with a Go-Pro camera on it. SDPD Officers were holding the vehicle secure at the location pending obtaining and executing a state search warrant.

20. While on scene at the vehicle, it was learned that one of the victims, Laurie Kay, died as a result of gunshot wounds.

21. During a public safety interview with SDPD Detective Rudy Castro, John Earnest confirmed his home address as 10134 Freeport Ct., San Diego CA. He further stated that there were no further weapons at the home. At that time, Earnest did not appear to be under the influence of a controlled substance but did appear to have a "flat affect" as though he was detached or unaffected by his actions.

22. SDPD SWAT officers and Detectives responded to the residence on Freeport Ct. The parents of the suspect were contacted and escorted from the home and taken to the Sheriff's Poway substation, pending the execution of a state search warrant on their residence. While at the substation, the parents informed law enforcement that their son frequently uses a computer in their home.

23. Using various search methods, Whitney Buckingham an SDSD system data miner, found a manifesto on Pastebin.com written by a person identifying himself as John Earnest. In the manifesto, which he named "An Open Letter", Earnest made many anti-semitic and anti-muslim statements. One such statement which is a direct quote is, "As an individual, I can only kill so many Jews." He states he is not a terrorist but that he hates anyone who he sees as a threat to his country. Earnest took credit for a fire that had been set at mosque in Escondido a few weeks earlier. His exact statement was "I scorched a mosque in Escondido with gasoline a week after Brenton Tarrant's sacrifice and they never found shit on me." Additionally, he wrote "I spray-painted on the parking lot. I wrote 'For Brenton Tarrant -t./pol/.'"

24. I observed part of the post-Miranda statement of Earnest. During that interview, he informed an SDSD Detective that he had adopted his ideology of hate for members of the Jewish religion approximately 18 month earlier. Based on my training and experience, I know that there is a process in which someone undergoes adoption of radical ideologies. This process can take several months or several years before a person actually commits to those ideologies. During the interview, Earnest also stated that he was inspired by individuals such as Adolph Hitler and Brenton Tarrant.

25. Based on information received from Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (“ATF”) Special Agent Scott Brahin, on March 24, 2019, an unknown individual set fire to a mosque in Escondido, California.

26. Specifically, on March 24, 2019, at approximately 3:19 a.m., a 911 call was placed to report a fire at the Dar-ul-Arqam Mosque and Islamic Center (“mosque”), located at 318 West 6th Avenue in Escondido, California. The Escondido Fire Department and then Escondido Police Department (“EPD”) responded. First responders learned approximately seven individuals had been spending the night at the mosque and, at approximately 3:15 a.m., they had observed flames and rushed outside to extinguish them with a fire extinguisher. First responders noticed ash or charring along approximately half the length of the mosque’s west side and spray-painted writing on the asphalt parking lot near where the fire had occurred that read, “FOR BRENTON TARRAN r/pol/.” First responders also noticed the odor of, or similar to, gasoline at the location of the fire.

27. Investigators conducted an online search for “Brenton Tarran” and noted that he was arrested for the mass shootings at two mosques in New Zealand that occurred on March 15, 2019 and is believed to be a white supremacist. Investigators also learned “r/pol/” is a reference to an online political discussion

board that has been characterized as predominately racist, espousing views embraced by white supremacist groups.

28. Investigators reviewed surveillance footage retrieved from a business across the street from the mosque. The camera recorded an individual (“suspect”) park his/her four-door sedan in front of the mosque at approximately 3:00 a.m. In the video, the suspect exited the vehicle, walked towards the parking lot where the message was later found spray painted, and then returned to the vehicle. Shortly thereafter, the suspect again exited the car carrying a large container and walked toward the area of the mosque where the fire was set. A short time later, at approximately 3:15 a.m., a large flash of light and smoke are seen in the video and the suspect walked back to the vehicle and drove away westbound on West 6th Avenue. In surveillance videos obtained from businesses along the route, investigators observed that the suspect appeared to arrive at the mosque on March 24, 2019 by driving eastbound on West 9th Avenue, northbound on South Escondido Boulevard, and then westbound on West 6th Avenue, where he parked in front of the mosque. Investigators also observed, as noted above, that the suspect left the area by driving westbound on West 6th Avenue. Based on their review of surveillance videos, investigators believed that the suspect was driving a 2010 to 2015 Civic Honda, silver in color.

29. Earnest’s statements in the manifesto that he set fire to the Escondido mosque on March 24, 2019, is corroborated by the following. At the time of his arrest for the synagogue shooting, Earnest was driving a 2012 Honda Civic, grey in color. Additionally, the spray painted message left by the mosque arsonist was not released to the media. The fact that the manifesto specifically makes reference to that message further corroborates that Earnest committed the mosque arson.

30. On April 27, 2019, Greg Simon of the SDPD located and viewed an open source online post regarding the shooting at the synagogue. The post

purportedly contains a livestream link referencing the shooting at <https://www.facebook.com/john.earnest.96780> (i.e., Facebook Account Number 100035547390347, with user name “john.earnest.96780.”)

31. On April 27, 2019, following the synagogue shooting, FBI Special Agent Scott Norris submitted a request to Facebook for emergency disclosure of records for the “john.earnest.96780” Facebook account, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 2702. In response to that request, the Facebook provided records which listed the user’s phone as 858.999.1461 (the same number Ernest used to call the CHP on April 27, 2019). Facebook verified the number on April 7, 2019. Facebook identified two additional Facebook accounts possibly utilized by the user of the john.earnest.96780 Facebook account, which were accessed via the same browser and the same electronic device. Those accounts are the **SUBJECT ACCOUNTS**. The response also indicated that the user of phone number of 858.999.1461 (the same number Ernest used to call the CHP on April 27, 2019). *MES JLB*

#### Opinions and Conclusions

32. I know from my training and experience, including consultation with other law enforcement agents, in investigations involving Facebook that electronic service providers maintain business records that include information listed under the Items Subject to Seizure in Attachment B.

33. Based on my training and experience, including consultation with other agents involved in the investigation and prosecution of hate crimes, I know the following:

- a. It is common for individuals who commit hate crimes to discuss such matters, with co-conspirators via telephone, text messages, emails and social media – both before and after such crimes – for the purpose of planning and providing updates to one another.

b. It is also common that individuals who commit hate crimes to discuss their criminal activities with trusted third parties, including friends or loved ones, before and after the commission of such crimes, via text messages, emails and social media.

c. It is also common for such individuals who commit hate crimes to communicate with other like-minded individuals who support their ideologies, beliefs and violent actions, via text messages, emails and social media;

d. It is common for individuals who commit hate crimes to visit or research the planned site of the crimes, prior to committing said crimes, for the purposes of planning the successful execution of their criminal activity and their getaway, and evidence of such research or prior connection may be in their social media sites, including private messaging with third parties;

e. It is common for individuals who commit hate crimes to post statements or send messages to others regarding their bias and motivation for committing such crimes, which evidence may be found in their social media sites, including private messaging with third parties;

f. It is common for individuals who commit hate crimes to conduct research regarding hate crimes committed by themselves and others, and evidence of such research may be found in their social media sites, including private messaging with third parties;

g. It is common for individuals who commit hate crimes to recruit others individuals to adopt their ideological beliefs and inspire others to commit violent acts in support of those beliefs, and evidence of such recruitment may be found in their social media sites, including private messaging with third parties.

h. It is common for individuals who commit hate crimes to conduct research regarding the tools and means to carry out their hate crimes, including

research involving obtaining, manufacturing and/or using firearms, dangerous weapons, and incendiary and explosive devices.

34. Based on my training and experience, and my consultation with my fellow agents, I also believe that the evidence I seek remains in and will be found in the **SUBJECT ACCOUNTS** despite the passage of time. Routinely, during previous cases involving the search of electronically stored data, relevant investigative information is found dating back several months or even years.

**V. SEARCH PROTOCOL**

**A. Genuine Risk of Destruction of Evidence**

35. Based upon my experience and training, and the experience and training of other agents with whom I have consulted with, electronically stored data can be permanently deleted or modified by users possessing basic computer skills. In this case, only if the subject receives advance warning of the execution of this warrant, will there be a genuine risk of destruction of evidence.

**B. Prior Attempt to Obtain Evidence**

36. State authorities have obtained a state search warrant for the Facebook Account, User Name “john.earnest.96780.” As indicated above, federal agents also obtained emergency disclosure of limited records for the “john.earnest.96780” Facebook Account which information disclosed the additional **SUBJECT ACCOUNTS**. The United States is unaware of any search warrant applications for the **SUBJECT ACCOUNTS**.

**C. Procedures for Electronically Stored Information**

37. Federal agents and investigative support personnel are trained and experienced in identifying communications relevant to the crimes under investigation. The personnel of Facebook are not. It would be inappropriate and impractical for federal agents to search the vast computer network of Facebook for

the relevant accounts and then to analyze the contents of those accounts on the premises of Facebook. The impact on Facebook's business would be severe.

38. Therefore, I request authority to seize all content, including electronic mail and attachments, stored instant messages, stored voice messages, photographs and any other content from the **SUBJECT ACCOUNTS**, as described in Attachment B. In order to accomplish the objective of the search warrant with a minimum of interference with the business activities of Facebook, to protect the rights of the subject of the investigation and to effectively pursue this investigation, authority is sought to allow Facebook to make a digital copy of the entire contents of the accounts subject to seizure. That copy will be provided to me or to any authorized federal agent. The copy will be forensically imaged and the image will then be analyzed to identify communications and other data subject to seizure pursuant to Attachment B. Relevant data will be copied to separate media. The original media will be sealed and maintained to establish authenticity, if necessary.

39. Analyzing the data to be provided by Facebook may require special technical skills, equipment and software. It also can be very time-consuming. Searching by keywords, for example, often yields many thousands of "hits," each of which must be reviewed in its context by the examiner to determine whether the data is within the scope of the warrant. Merely finding a relevant "hit" does not end the review process. Certain file formats do not lend themselves to keyword searches and keyword search text. Many common electronic mail, database and spreadsheet applications, which files may have been attached to electronic mail, do not store data as searchable text. The data is saved in a proprietary non-text format. The volume of storage allotted by service providers increases, the time it takes to properly analyze recovered data increases dramatically.

40. Based on the foregoing, searching the recovered data for the information subject to seizure pursuant to this warrant may require a range of data

analysis techniques and may take weeks or even months. Keywords need to be modified continuously based upon the results obtained. The personnel conducting the examination will complete the analysis within (90) days of receipt of the data from the service provider, absent further application to this court.

41. Based upon my experience and training, and the experience and training of other agents with whom I have communicated, it is necessary to review and seize all electronic mails that identify any users of the **SUBJECT ACCOUNTS** and any electronic mails sent or received in temporal proximity to incriminating electronic mails that provide context to the incrimination mails.

42. All forensic analysis of the imaged data will employ search protocols directed exclusively to the identification and extraction of data within the scope of this warrant.

43. FBI Special Agents have been in contact with Facebook, who is expecting FBI to serve them with the warrant as soon as it is signed. For that reason, we are requesting permission to serve the warrant on Facebook at any time, day or night.

## **VI. REQUEST FOR SEALING AND PRECLUSION OF NOTICE**

44. Although John Earnest has been arrested by state authorities, he is unaware of the scope and nature of law enforcement's investigation into his activities. Additionally, law enforcement is still investigating whether he acted alone, or conspired with others or was inspired by others. As such, there is reason to believe that disclosure of the affidavit and warrant will result in destruction of or tampering with evidence or otherwise seriously jeopardize the investigation. Accordingly, it is requested that this warrant and its related materials be sealed until further order of the Court. In addition, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 2705(b), it is requested that this Court order Facebook to whom this warrant is directed not to notify anyone of the existence of this warrant, other than its

personnel essential to compliance with the execution of this warrant until October 25, 2019, absent order from the Court.

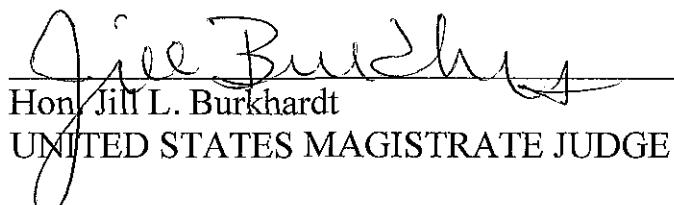
## VII. **CONCLUSION**

45. Based on the foregoing, your affiant submits that there is probable cause to believe that violations of federal criminal law, namely, violations of federal law, namely, intentional obstruction, by force or threat of force of persons in the free exercise of religious belief, resulting in death, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 247(a)(2), willfully causing bodily injury to persons through the use of a firearm because of the actual or perceived religion of said persons, resulting in death, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 249(a)(1), and damage to religious property, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 247(a)(1), have occurred, and that evidence of said violations, as described in Attachment B will be found within the **SUBJECT ACCOUNTS**.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the foregoing is true and correct.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Maria Solomon  
FBI, Special Agent

Sworn to before me this  
29 day of April \_\_\_\_ 2019

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Hon. Jill L. Burkhardt  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

**ATTACHMENT A**

This warrant applies to information associated with following Facebook accounts:

Facebook ID Account Number 100027636555708, with Facebook User Name "John Earnest"; and

Facebook ID Account Number 100005829157939, with Facebook Username: "John Tocatina,"

that are stored at premises owned, maintained, controlled, or operated by Facebook,  
1601 Willow Road, Menlo Park, California 94025

**ATTACHMENT B**

**I. Service of Warrant**

The officer executing the warrant shall permit Facebook, as custodian of the computer files described in Section II below, to locate the files and copy them onto removable electronic storage media and deliver the same to the officer.

**II. Items Subject to Seizure**

All registration information; Phone and associated devices; Trusted devices; Deleted friends; Last location; IP history; Stored video and audio direct message communications; Any and all accounts associated by cookie; User Names and profile names; E-mail addresses and passwords; Any and all live stream video associated with account; Profile information; Friends information; Private messages in the user's inbox, sent messages, trash/deleted messages, notifications and updates involving any and all user; Chat information in the user's inbox, sent messages, trash/deleted messages, notifications and updates involving any and all user; IP logs (which includes the date stamps of the IP logs at login), initial login IP address and account activity and other information including name, address, phone number and other screen names that may tend to identify the user; and any other files associated with the following accounts:

Facebook ID Account Number 100027636555708, with Facebook User Name "John Earnest"; and

Facebook ID Account Number 100005829157939, with Facebook | Username: "John Tocatina,"

(hereinafter, the "**SUBJECT ACCOUNTS**"). The search of the data supplied by Facebook, Inc., pursuant to this warrant will be conducted as provided in the "Procedures for Electronically Stored Information" of the affidavit submitted in support of this search warrant and will be limited to:

a. Communications, data, or attachments relating to the research, purchase, or acquisition of firearms, and the research or manufacture of incendiary or explosive devices;

- b. Communications, data, or attachments tending to identify others involved in the criminal activity described below;
- c. Communications, data, or attachments third parties with whom John Ernest discussed the criminal activities described below;
- d. Communications, data, or attachments relating to John Earnests' motivation and bias for committing the criminal activities described below;
- e. Communications, data, or attachments relating to the research of, visits to, or other connections with the Synagogue located on Chabad Way in Poway, California, and/or the Dar-ul-Arqam Mosque and Islamic Center (the "mosque"), located at 318 West 6th Avenue in Escondido, California;
- f. Communications, data, or attachments relating to the research or viewing of news articles and reports about the arson that occurred at the mosque in Escondido, California on March 24, 2019, or criminal acts committed by other individuals involving criminal activity described below;
- g. Communications, data, or attachments relating to recruiting and inspiring individuals to engage in the criminal activity described below;
- h. Communications, data, or attachments relating to the whereabouts of John Earnest and any criminal associates or co-conspirators at the of the April 27, 2019, shooting at the synagogue on Chabad Way in Poway, and the March 24, 2019, arson of the mosque in Escondido, California;
- i. Communications, data, or attachments that tend to provide context to the information described above, such as direct messages sent or received in temporal proximity to any relevant communications, or communications, data, or attachments tending to identify the user of or person with control over the **SUBJECT ACCOUNTS**.

during the time period from January 1, 2017, through April 27, 2019, which tend to prove violations of federal law, namely, intentional obstruction, by force or threat of force, of persons in the free exercise of religious belief, resulting in death, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 247(a)(2), willfully causing bodily injury to persons through the use of a firearm because of the actual or perceived religion of said persons, resulting in death, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 249(a)(1), and damage to religious property, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 247(a)(1).